



Press Release

Lake County Sheriff's Office
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Daniel A. Dunlap
Sheriff

PRESS RELEASE **March 14, 2012**

Lt. Todd menmuir reported that on Wednesday, March 14, 2012 at 1603 hrs. the Lake County Sheriff's Office, and the Perry Twp. Fire Department ,were dispatched to the area of 3547 N. Ridge Rd. in Perry Twp., Ohio due to a multi vehicle collision with injuries. The investigation concluded that a total of seven vehicles were involved in this collision. Six of the involved vehicles were traveling E/B on N. Ridge Rd. and one of the involved vehicles was traveling W/B on N. Ridge Rd.

The chain reaction collision occurred as the result one motorist failing to maintain and assured clear distance ahead. That motorist was identified as David Raico, who resides at Madison Twp., Ohio. Mr. Raico was operating a 2001 GMC van. Mr. Raico had been traveling E/B, on the left lane of travel, when he failed to maintain an assured clear distance ahead. The GMC van had then struck the rear end of a 2005 Chevy Silverado, operated by Eric Noce of Ashtabula, that became stopped in traffic, on the E/B, left lane of travel

The impact between the GMC van and the Chevrolet Silverado had forced the Chevrolet Silverado forward, causing the Chevrolet Silverado to the strike the rear end of a 2006 Saturn that had been stopped in traffic, on the E/B, left lane of travel, when it was struck by the Chevrolet Silverado, driven by Craig Montagner of Madison Township.

The impact between the Chevrolet Silverado and the Saturn Vue had forced the Saturn Vue forward causing it to strike the rear end of a 2012 Dode Avenger, operated by Donald Mansfield Sr. of Perry Township, who had been stopped in traffic, on the E/B, left lane of travel, waiting to make a left turn onto the driveway of 3547 N. Ridge Rd.

As the described vehicles were colliding with each other, a 2010 Mazda "3" operated by Courtney Miller, who resides in Madison Township, was also traveling E/B, in the left lane of travel, approaching from behind the GMC Van. Ms. Miller observed the collision occurring ahead and used evasive actions of braking and swerving to avoid striking the rear end of the GMC Van. Ms. Miller's

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evasive actions were successful until the rear end of her Mazda "3" was struck from behind and then forced forward and into the rear end of the GMC Van.

The Mazda "3" was struck from behind by a 2000 Chevy Blazer operated by Bradley Perlman of Geneva. Mr. Pearlman had been traveling E/B, also on the left of travel, when he too failed to maintain an assured clear distance ahead. The impact between the Chevrolet Blazer and the Mazda "3" had then forced the Chevrolet Blazer left of the center line. The Chevrolet Blazer had then sideswiped a 2003 Pontiac Bonneville being driven by Christine Page of Perry Township. The Pontiac Bonneville had been traveling W/B, on the left lane of travel, when it was struck by the Chevrolet Blazer.

A total of five occupants were transported by Perry Township Rescue to the Madison Medical Campus for precautionary treatment. These five persons were identified as Christine Page, operator of the Pontiac Bonneville, Courtney Miller, operator of the Mazda "3", and Courtney Miller's three children who were passengers inside the Mazda vehicle.

The operator of the GMC van (David Raico) and the operator of the Chevrolet Blazer (Bradley Pearlman) were both issued citations for Failing to Maintain an Assured Clear Distance Ahead. Three vehicles were towed from the scene. The E/B lanes of travel were closed for approx. 70 minutes. All occupants were wearing safety belts. The airbags had deployed on the GMC van, on the Chevrolet Blazer, and on the Mazda "3".

Frank Leonbruno

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